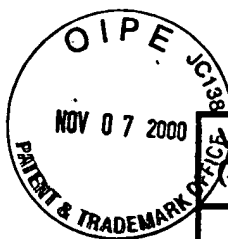


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**VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS**  
**(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))—INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket Number (Optional)  
S261-J

Applicant or Patentee: Tony J. Alba  
Application or Patent No.: 09/339,466  
Filed or Issued: 06/23/1999  
Title: HIGH LOAD CAPACITY HOIST RING

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
☒ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization exists.  
☐ Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Tony J. Alba  
NAME OF INVENTOR  
[Signature]  
Signature of inventor  
11/1/00  
Date

NAME OF INVENTOR  
Signature of inventor  
Date

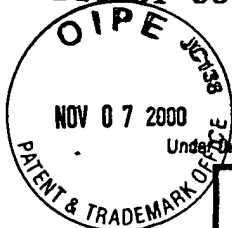
NAME OF INVENTOR  
Signature of inventor  
Date

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.3 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete the form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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# **VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS** **(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(c))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

Docket Number (Optional)  
S261-J

Applicant or Patentee: Phil Stranahan  
Application or Patent No.: 09/339,466  
Filed or Issued: 06/23/1999  
Title: HIGH LOAD CAPACITY HOIST RING

- I hereby declare that I am  
☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below.  
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN CBC Industries, Inc.

ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN 2000 Camfield Avenue  
City of Commerce, CA 90040

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.12, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time, or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party of parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

- ☐ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.  
☒ the application identified above.  
☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern, or organization having rights in the invention must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

- Each person, concern, or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:  
☒ no such person, concern, or organization exists.  
☐ each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file. In this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Phil Stranahan

TITLE OF PERSON IF OTHER THAN OWNER Vice President

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING 2000 Camfield Avenue, City of Commerce, CA 90040

SIGNATURE Phil Stranahan DATE 11/1/00

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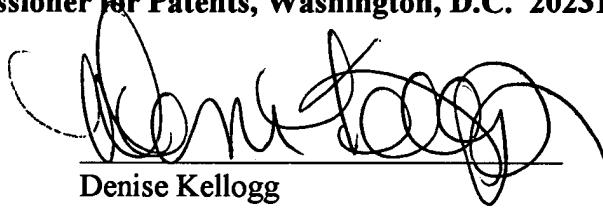
**EXPRESS MAIL**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, Denise Kellogg, do hereby certify that the accompanying:

**Transmittal(x2); Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status-Independent Inventor;  
a Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status-Small Business Concern  
and a Return Post Card.**

Are being deposited with the United States postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, in an envelope addressed to the **Box PATENT APPLICATIONS, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231**, on this date of November 7, 2000.

  
Denise Kellogg

Express Mail Label No.: EL566015962US  
Date of Deposit: 11/07/2000  
Atty Docket No.: S261-J  
S.N.: 09/339,466

**BRUNTON & JAGGER**  
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